**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for forecasting the sale of goods, comprising:

a) at least one computer of an independent supply chain manager receiving data from a plurality of independent point of sale outlets of [[a]]an independent supply chain utilizing a network, the data comprising ~~amount~~ amounts of goods sold manually at store locations by the point of sale outlets;

b) the at least one computer of an independent supply chain manager checking the data for errors made by the independent point of sale outlets;

c) the at least one computer of an independent supply chain manager identifying the errors made by at least one of the independent point of sale outlets including at least one of point of sale set-up error, point of sale entry error, back office error, polling error, and datum item mapping error and logging the errors in a log;

d) correcting the data using the identification;

e) the at least one computer of an independent supply chain manager transmitting the log to at least one of the independent point of sale outlets utilizing the network;

f) the at least one computer of an independent supply chain manager receiving data on amounts of products distributed to the respective independent point of sale outlets;

~~g) calculating in a management supply chain computer an actual good cost per point of sale outlet and an ideal good cost and making electronically accessible to the respective independent point of sale outlets;~~

[[h]]g) tracking the data relating to the sale of goods against forecasted sales on a periodic basis; and

[[i]]h) the at least one computer of an independent supply chain manager generating an alert if a deviation between the data and the forecasted sales exceeds a threshold.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the data is checked for errors in real-time.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the log is transmitted to a supply chain manager utilizing the network.

7. (Currently Amended) A system for forecasting the sale of goods, comprising: an electronic storage; and

at least one processor ~~a set of processors~~ of an independent supply chain manager, wherein the at least one processor includes therein, or among them if more than one processor, ~~the set of processors including among them~~ the following logic elements:

a) logic for receiving data from a plurality of independent point of sale outlets of [[a]]an independent supply chain utilizing a network, the data comprising amounts of goods sold manually at store locations by the point of sale outlets;

b) logic for checking the data for errors made by at least one of the independent point of sale outlets;

c) logic for identifying the errors made by the independent point of sale outlets including at least one of ~~such as~~ point of sale set-up error, point of sale entry error, back office error, polling error, and datum item mapping error and logging the errors in a log;

d) logic for correcting the data using the identification;

e) logic for transmitting the log to at least one of the independent point of sale outlets utilizing the network;

f) logic for receiving data on amounts of products distributed to the respective independent point of sale outlets;

g) ~~logic for calculating an actual good cost per point of sale outlet and an ideal good cost and making electronically accessible to the respective independent point of sale outlets;~~

~~h)~~ ——logic for tracking the data relating to the sale of goods against forecasted sales on a periodic basis; and

[[i]]h) logic for generating an alert if a deviation between the data and the forecasted sales exceeds a threshold.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the network includes the Internet.

9. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the data is checked for errors in real-time.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the log is transmitted to a supply chain manager utilizing the network.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for forecasting the sale of goods, comprising:

at least one computer usable medium ~~a set of computer usable media~~ having computer readable program code embodied therein or among them if more than one medium, capable of being executed ~~to be executed~~ by a computer ~~wherein set means at least one, where the set of computer useable media includes~~ and including among them the following computer readable program code

a) computer code for receiving data from a plurality of independent point of sale outlets of [[a]]an independent supply chain utilizing a network, the data comprising amounts of goods sold manually at store locations by the point of sale outlets;

b) computer code for checking the data for errors made by the independent point of sale outlets;

c) computer code for identifying the errors made by at least one of the independent point of sale outlets including at least one of point of sale set-up error, point of sale entry error, back office error, polling error, and datum item mapping error and logging the errors in a log;

d) computer code for correcting the data using the identification;

e) computer code for transmitting the log to at least one of the independent point of sale outlets utilizing the network;

f) computer code for receiving data on amounts of products distributed to the respective independent point of sale outlets;

g) ~~computer code for calculating an actual good cost per point of sale outlet and an ideal good cost and making electronically accessible to the respective independent point of sale outlets;~~

~~h)~~ computer code for tracking the data relating to the sale of goods against forecasted sales on a periodic basis; and

h[[i]]) computer code for generating an alert if a deviation between the data and the forecasted sales exceeds a threshold.

14. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the network includes the Internet.

15. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the data is checked for errors in real-time.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Cancelled).

18. (Original) The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the log is transmitted to a supply chain manager utilizing the network.

19. (New) The method of claim 4, further comprising

calculating in the at least one computer of an independent supply chain manager an actual good cost per point of sale outlet and an ideal good cost and making electronically accessible to the respective independent point of sale outlets.

20. (New) The system of claim 7, further comprising:

logic for calculating an actual good cost per point of sale outlet in the at least one computer of an independent supply chain manager and an ideal good cost and making electronically accessible to the respective independent point of sale outlets.

21. (New) The computer program product of claim 13, further comprising:

computer code for calculating in the at least one computer of an independent supply chain manager an actual good cost per point of sale outlet and an ideal good cost and making electronically accessible to the respective independent point of sale outlets.

22. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the ideal good cost is determined, in part, using component quantity rules for production of the good and a comparison is made electronically.

23. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein the ideal good cost is determined, in part, using component quantity rules for production of the good and a comparison is made electronically.

24. (New) The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the ideal good cost is determined, in part, using component quantity rules for production of the good and a comparison is made electronically.